



**Request for City Council Committee Action  
From the Department of Health & Family Support**

**Date:** June 4, 2002

**To:** HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

**Referral to:** WAYS AND MEANS/BUDGET COMMITTEE

**Subject:** Authorization to solicit funds on behalf of the Public Health Laboratory.

**Recommendation**

Council authorization for the proper city officials to solicit funds from Public Health Laboratory customers to assist with purchase of laboratory equipment, and authorization for the Finance Department to set up the proper accounts in fund/org 0600 860-8614 upon receipt of these funds.

**Previous Directives**

None

**Prepared or Submitted by:** Ken Dahl, MDHFS Phone: x2622

**Approved by:**

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David S. Doth, Commissioner of Health & Family Support

**Presenters in Committee:**

**Financial Impact** (Check those that apply)

- ☐ No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.  
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- ☐ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- ☒ Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- ☒ Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- ☐ Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- ☐ Other financial impact (Explain):
- ☐ Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

**Community Impact** (use any categories that apply)

Neighborhood Notification  
City Goals: Support effective and efficient law enforcement./Strength through infrastructure investments  
Comprehensive Plan  
Zoning Code  
Other: Efficient/effective City government

**Background/Supporting Information Attached**

The Public Health Laboratory provides a range of clinical (medical), environmental (water, lead, food) and chemical (law enforcement – drug) testing for a variety of partners in the City of Minneapolis, the metro area and beyond. Combined, these partners create the volume of testing that is necessary to keep the cost per test affordable, allows the laboratory to cover most of its operating expenses and to fulfill its public health responsibilities. However, in order to stay competitive, the laboratory must continue to invest resources to purchase state of the art equipment. These costs have ranged from \$25,000 to \$70,000 annually. To raise some of these funds lab staff wishes to solicit its many partners. We will be asking for direct contributions. We will also request consideration as they apply for federal and state grants. We have had some success securing grant funds in past years through partnerships with the Minneapolis Police and the City's Environmental Services division.